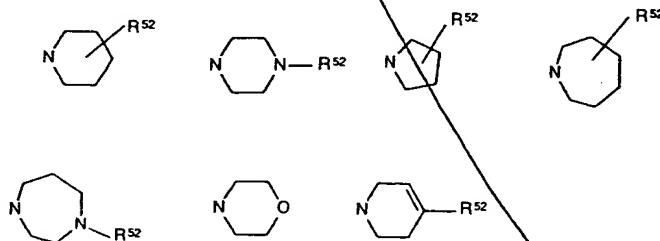


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT CLAIMS - OZ 49500

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R25
2. (amended) A compound of the formula I or II as claimed in claim 1 in which
- R¹ is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry OR¹¹ or a group R⁵, where
- R¹¹ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl, and
- R² is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, nitro, CF₃, CN, NR²¹R²², NH-CO-R²³, OR²¹, where
- R²¹ and R²² are, independently of one another, hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl, and
- R²³ [are [sic]] is hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl or phenyl, and
- R³ is -O-(CH₂)_o-(CHR³¹)_m-(CH₂)_n-R⁵, where
- R³¹ is hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl, OH and O-C₁-C₄-alkyl,
- m, o [is [sic]] are, independently of one another, 0, 1 or 2, and
- n is 1, 2, 3 or 4 and
- R⁴ is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, chlorine, bromine, fluorine, nitro, cyano, NR⁴¹R⁴² NH-CO-R⁴³ OR⁴¹ where
- R⁴¹ and R⁴² are, independently of one another, hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl, and
- R⁴³ [are [sic]] is C₁-C₄-alkyl or phenyl, and
- R⁵ is NR⁵¹R⁵² or one of the following radicals

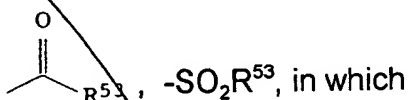


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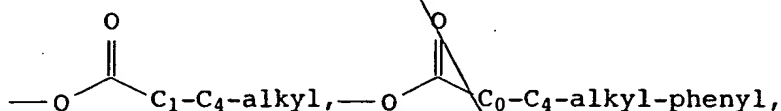
where

R^{51} is hydrogen and branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, and

R^{52} is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl phenyl, [and]



R^{53} is branched or unbranched O - C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, phenyl, branched or unbranched C_1 - C_4 -alkyl-phenyl, where one hydrogen in the C_1 - C_6 -alkyl radical in R^{52} and R^{53} can, independently of one another, be substituted by one of the following radicals: OB , O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cycloheptyl, naphthyl and phenyl, where the carbocycles of the R^{52} and R^{53} radicals may also, independently of one another, carry one or two of the following radicals: branched or unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, branched or unbranched O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, OH , F , Cl , Br , I , CF_3 , NO_2 , NH_2 , CN , $COOH$, $COOC_1$ - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylamino, CCl_3 , C_1 - C_4 -dialkylamino, SO_2 - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, SO_2 phenyl, $CONH_2$, $CONH$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, $CONH$ phenyl, $CONH$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl-phenyl, $NHSO_2$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, $NBSO_2$ phenyl, S - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl,



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cont.

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CHO, $\text{CH}_2\text{O}-\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{-alkyl}$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{-alkyl-phenyl}$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, $-\text{SO}-\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{-alkyl}$, $-\text{SO}-\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{-alkyl-phenyl}$, SO_2NH_2 , $-\text{SO}_2\text{NH}-\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{-alkyl}$ and two radicals form a bridge $-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_{1,2}-\text{O}-$,

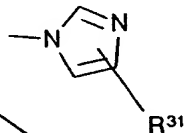
and the tautomeric form, possible enantiomeric and diastereomeric forms thereof, the prodrugs thereof, and possible physiologically tolerated salts.

4. (amended) A compound as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, where R^2 is in position 3 and R^3 is in position 4 or R^2 is in position 4 and R^3 is in position 3 relative to the benzimidazole ring.

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5. (amended) A compound as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 4] claim 1, where R^1 and R^4 are hydrogen.

6. (amended) A compound as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, where R^2 is hydrogen, branched or unbranched $\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6\text{-alkyl}$, nitro, CN , NH_2 , $\text{O}-\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{-alkyl}$.

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7. (amended) A compound as claimed in [any of claims 1 or 3 to 6] claim 1 where (i) for R^3 being



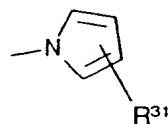
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R^{31} is hydrogen or $-(CH_2)_p-R^5$, where

p is 1 or 2 and

R^{52} may be hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1-C_6 -alkyl, where one hydrogen of the C_1-C_6 -alkyl radical may be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O- C_1-C_4 -alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may also carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched C_1-C_4 -alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_4 -alkylamino, C_1-C_4 -dialkylamino, OH, O- C_1-C_4 -alkyl, CN, $SO_2-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl;

(ii) for R^3 being

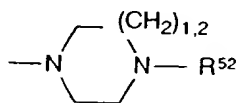


R^{31} is hydrogen or $-(CH_2)_p-R^5$, where

p is 1 or 2 and

R^{52} may be hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1-C_6 -alkyl, where one hydrogen of the C_1-C_6 -alkyl radical may be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O- C_1-C_4 -alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may also carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched C_1-C_4 -alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_4 -alkylamino, C_1-C_4 -dialkylamino, OH, O- C_1-C_4 -alkyl, CN, $SO_2-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl;

and (iii) for R³ being



where R⁵² is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, where one hydrogen of the C₁-C₆-alkyl radical may be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C₁-C₄-alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may also carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched C₁-C₄-alkyl, nitro, amino, C₁-C₄-alkylamino, C₁-C₄-dialkylamino, OH, O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, CN, SO₂-C₁-C₄-alkyl.

8. (amended) A compound as claimed in [any of claims 1, 2 or 4 to 6] claim 1, where R³ is -O-(CH₂)_p-R⁵ with p equal to 2, 3 or 4.

9. (amended) A compound as claimed in [any of claims 1, 2 or 4 to 7] claim 1, where R⁵ is a 6-membered ring and R⁵² is an optionally substituted phenyl ring.

10. (amended) A drug comprising besides conventional vehicles and ancillary substances a compound as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 9] claim 1.

11. (amended) [The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10 for producing drugs] A method for treating [diseases] a disorder in which pathologically elevated PARP activities occur, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal

suffering from said disorder.

12. (amended) The [use of compounds of the formula I] method as claimed in claim 11 [to 6 for producing drugs for treating] wherein the disorder is a neurodegenerative [diseases and] disease or involves neuronal damage.

13. (amended) The [use] method as claimed in claim [11 for treating neurodegenerative diseases and neuronal damage] 12, wherein the neurodegenerative disease or neuronal damage is induced by ischemia, trauma or massive bleeding.

14. (amended) The [use] method as claimed in claim 11 [for treating] wherein the disorder is stroke and craniocerebral trauma.

15. (amended) The [use] method as claimed in claim 11 [for treating] wherein the disorder is Alzheimer's disease and Huntington's disease.

16. (amended) The [use of compounds of the formula I] method as claimed in claim 11 [for producing drugs for the treatment or prophylaxis of] wherein the disorder is damage due to ischemia.

17. (amended) The [use of compounds of the formula I] method as claimed in claim 11 [for producing drugs for treating epilepsies, in particular generalized epileptic seizures, such as, for example, petit mal and tonoclonic seizures and partial epileptic seizures such as temporal lobe [sic], and complex partial seizures] wherein the disorder is epilepsy.

18. (amended) The [use of compounds of the formula I] method as claimed in claim 11 [for producing drugs for treating] wherein the disorder is damage to the

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kidneys after renal ischemia, damage caused by drug therapy [such as, for example, during yclosporin therapy, and for treatment during and] or damage resulting after kidney transplants.

19. (amended) The [use of compounds of the formula I] method as claimed in claim 11 [for producing drugs for treating] wherein the disorder is damage to the heart after cardiac ischemia.

20. (amended) The [use of compounds of the formula I] method as claimed in claim 11 [for producing drugs for treating microinfarcts such as, for example, during and after heart valve replacement, aneurysm resections and heart transplants] wherein the disorder is a microinfarct.

21. (amended) The [use of compounds of the formula I] method as claimed in claim 11 [for producing drugs for treatment in cases of revascularization [sic] of critically narrowed coronary arteries such as for example, PTCA and bypass operations or critically narrowed peripheral arteries, especially leg arteries] wherein the disorder is under vascularization of critically narrowed coronary arteries.

22. (amended) The [use of compounds of the formula I] method as claimed in claim 11 [for producing drugs for treating] wherein the disorder is an acute myocardial infarct and damage during and after medical or mechanical lysis thereof.

23. (amended) The [use of compounds of the formula I] method as claimed in claim 11 [for producing drugs for treating tumors and] wherein the disorder is a tumor or metastasis I thereof.

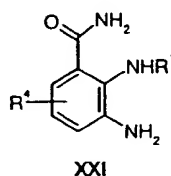
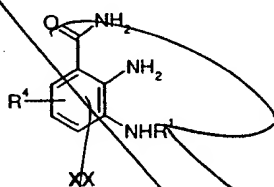
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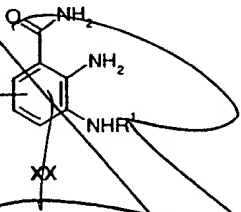
25. (amended) The [use of compounds of the formula I] method as claimed in claim 11 [for producing drugs for treating] wherein the disorder is an immunological disease [diseases such as inflammations and rheumatic diseases such as, for example, rheumatoid arthritis].


26. (amended) The [use of compounds of the formula I] method as claimed in claim 11 [for producing drugs for treating] wherein the disorder is diabetes mellitus.

27. (amended) A compound of the formula XX or XXI



compound of the formula XX or XXI





XXI

R¹ is as defined in [the preceding claims] and

preparing compounds of the formula XX

, which comprises converting the correspo

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R⁴ = hydrogen and R¹ is as defined in [the preceding claims] claim 1, and salts thereof.

28. A process for preparing compounds of the formula XX or XXI as claimed in claim
27 and salts thereof, which comprises converting the corresponding ester into the

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A2 amide XX or XXI with hydrazine hydrate in an alcohol and subsequent reduction of the hydrazine with Raney nickel in a polar solvent[sic].

Cancel claim 29.

32. (amended) A method as claimed in [either of claims 30 or 31] claim 30, wherein the polyADP-ribosylatable target is a histone protein.

A3 33. (amended) A method as claimed in [any of claims 30 to 32] claim 30, wherein the PARP activator is activated DNA.

34. (amended) A method as claimed in [any of claims 30 to 33] claim 30, wherein the polyADP ribosylation reaction is started by adding NAD+.

35. (amended) A method as claimed in [any of claims 30 to 34] claim 30, wherein the unsupported target is labeled with an acceptor fluorophore.

37. (amended) A method as claimed in [either of claims 35 or 36] claim 35, wherein the target is biotinylated histone, and the acceptor fluorophore is coupled thereto via avidin or streptavidin.

38. (amended) A method as claimed in [either of claims 36 and 37] claim 36, wherein the anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibody carries a europium cryptate as donor fluorophore.

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